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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-2213**

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December 21, 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski  
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I respectfully request that you devote careful attention to the broadcast spectrum incentive auction process to ensure that a broadcast footprint is preserved in all local communities, broadcasters retain their entire service areas, and programming diversity is maintained. I also request that you continue to explore federal spectrum sharing as a means of increasing the availability of commercial spectrum, in order to ease the pressure on broadcasters to divest their spectrum. In addition, the FCC should ensure that all costs to broadcasters caused by a station move that is required to facilitate the auction process, including indirect costs such as consumer education, will be reimbursed by federal funding.

Over 54 million Americans rely solely on free, over-the-air television. Those viewers' access to local programming, local news, and emergency communications that broadcasters deliver must be preserved. The FCC can ensure minimal viewer disruption in the repacking process by prioritizing a television station's ability to reach the same viewers it currently reaches post-repacking. Viewers should not lose access to any of the stations that they currently receive. This is particularly important for African-American, Latino, and Asian communities, which are often served by small television stations that include a greater diversity of programming than large stations. These small stations may be negatively impacted by the incentive auction, so they warrant specific attention to preserve diversity in programming for all Americans.

As part of the incentive auction, broadcast stations that have been involuntarily moved will be reimbursed relocation costs from the "TV Broadcaster Relocation Fund." To date, the FCC has not clarified specifically which costs will be covered by this fund. I respectfully request that the FCC make certain that all costs incurred from the relocation will be covered by the fund, including the cost of activities such as educating consumers about the station move. Consumers deserve to know how their television access will change, and I am concerned that this education will not occur unless it is reimbursed.

Additionally, the FCC should seriously consider the recommendations made by the President's Advisory Council on Science and Technology and contained in the report, *Realizing the Full Potential of Government Held Spectrum to Spur Economic Growth*. The Council has endorsed increasing spectrum capacity through new technology that increases efficiency and allows for shared use of spectrum resources. They have proposed that up to 1000 MHz of additional

spectrum capacity could be provided through shared access between the federal government and commercial providers. I believe this proposal could provide an alternative to the incentive auction that would open up more broadband spectrum for commercial use without disrupting consumer access.

Finally, as the FCC explores avenues to address any perceived spectrum shortage, it ought to additionally examine ways to reduce the large amounts of data consumption that place such a burden on cellular networks. One meaningful alternative that I continue to advocate is the activation of radio chips in mobile phones. Widespread activation of these chips would provide consumers with an alternative for accessing music, news, and life-saving information while easing the burden on cellular networks.

Thank you for your consideration of these issues critical to consumer access to diverse, uninterrupted television programming and emergency communications.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hansen Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hansen Clarke  
Member of Congress